



July 9, 2020

For immediate release

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Panhandle Unified Command reports fifth death in Scotts Bluff County, one more case and 16 recoveries announced

Panhandle total: 345, Active: 83, Recovered: 257, Deaths: 5

A female in her 70s with underlying health conditions is the fifth COVID-19 related death in Scotts Bluff County.

“We extend our sincerest sympathy to her family and continue urging all Panhandle residents to take increased precautions against this insidious virus,” said Paulette Schnell, Scotts bluff County Health Department Director.

Testing opportunities for the week of July 6:

- Chadron Community Hospital: Mondays & Fridays, 7-9am
 - Testnebraska.com
 - Collections are at 821 Morehead Street (Old Hospital ER Entrance next to Wilson Park)
- Community Action Health Center in Gering: Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays, 7-8am
 - <https://tinyurl.com/y7msahzq>
- Gordon Clinic parking lot: Monday (7/13) 3-4pm, and Thursday (7/16) 3-4pm
 - Call for an appointment: 308-282-6334 or 308-282-1442
 - There is no charge for this testing.
- Morrill County Community Hospital: Daily
 - Call for testing, insurance will be billed
- Contact your local hospital or clinic for information on testing access.

Unified Command confirms one more case of COVID-19 in the Panhandle:

County	Demographics	Exposure Type
Scotts Bluff	Female in her 40s	Community Spread

Close contact and exposure are defined as at least 15 minutes, less than six feet apart. There are no community exposure sites identified. The investigation is complete, all close contacts will be quarantined and actively monitored twice daily for fever and respiratory symptoms by public health officials.

Sixteen new recoveries, seven in Morrill County and nine in Scotts Bluff County, brings the total recoveries to 257.

March 2-July 9, 2020

Total Tests Conducted: 5,803

Positive: 345

Cumulative Positivity Rate: 5.9%

Recovered: 257

Active Cases: 83

Active Hospitalizations: 3

Total Cumulative Hospitalizations: 34

Deaths: 5

- **Banner County: 2 cases (recovered)**
- **Box Butte County: 4 cases (1 active, 3 recovered)**
- **Cheyenne County: 21 cases (1 active, 20 recovered)**
- **Dawes County: 4 cases (recovered)**
- **Garden County: 4 cases (recovered)**
- **Kimball County: 13 cases (1 active, 12 recovered)**
- **Morrill County: 52 cases (13 active, 39 recovered)**
- **Scotts Bluff County: 231 cases (62 active, 164 recovered, 5 deaths)**
- **Sheridan County: 8 cases (5 active, 3 recovered)**
- **Sioux County: 6 cases (recovered)**

Panhandle Public Health District, Region 21, 22, and 23 Emergency Management, and Scotts Bluff County Health Department are working as a unified command on this evolving situation. Essential updates will be regularly communicated to the public and community partners.

For the most up to date information from the CDC, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

Panhandle Public Health District is working together to improve the health, safety, and quality of life for all who live, learn, work, and play in the Panhandle. Our vision is that we are a healthier and safer Panhandle Community. Visit our website www.pphd.org.